

Jed 1107

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY AustriaREPORT 1. Soviet Motor Vehicles Moving to St. Poelten2. Soviet Troops in St. Poelten, Camp Spratzern and Goepritz

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 25 November 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 14 October 1953, a motor column arrived at St. Poelten (O 49/W 88) from the direction of Krems (O 49/R 80) and moved to the barracks installation west of Schiesstatt Ring. Elements of this column, mainly trucks with closed superstructures, weapon carriers and half-track vehicles, proceeded toward Camp Spratzern south of St. Poelten. The advance group of the column included:
 Weapon carrier mounting a heavy machine gun, 2 jeeps, one with a rod antenna, 6 sidecar motorcycles jeep with a rod antenna, jeep and 6 sidecar motorcycles
 The jeeps were occupied by officers wearing black-bordered black, red-bordered black and black-bordered red epaulets; the motorcycles were occupied by enlisted men wearing red-bordered black, and black-bordered red epaulets and armed partly with submachine guns and partly with rifles. Most soldiers wore a red arm band with a white K. At an interval of about 15 minutes, the advance detail was followed by a main body which included 4 jeeps, about 30 trucks, 15 trucks with closed superstructures, 2 weapon carriers, 2 tank trucks, armored personnel carrier 1 sedan occupied by one field officer, and 3 jeeps each occupied by one field officer. The rear group which followed at an interval of about 5 minutes included about 15 trucks, 5 trucks with closed superstructures, and 3 jeeps.
2. No heavy weapons were observed on the motor vehicles which, as well as the crews, were covered with dust. the morale of the men on the trucks, who sat face-to-face, was good. Four trucks towed field kitchens. Most trucks were occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Some trucks carried enlisted men wearing partly red-bordered black, and partly black-bordered red epaulets. The trucks with closed superstructures included one with an occupied cot and mainly carried soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets.
3. The men riding the sidecar motorcycles and the soldiers on the truck at the end of the column, which picked up all traffic control personnel after the vehicles had passed by, wore red arm bands with a white letter K.
4. The soldiers of a truck which halted at the railroad underpass on Prater Strasse and was loaded with potatoes cordially greeted the soldiers on the vehicles and gave a particularly snappy salute to the officers in the sedan and the three jeeps at the end of the main body.

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5. The sedan and the three jeeps which were at the end of the main body left the other vehicles at the entrance to the barracks installations and proceeded to the former District Court Building on Schiesstatt Ring.

6. [REDACTED] 25X1

7. On 14 October 1953, four soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with crossed-hatchet insignia entered the Eugen Kaserne in St. Poelten. The long-wire antenna in the Rainer Kaserne was removed. The long-wire antenna in the Franz Josef Kaserne was changed and led to the roof of the building at 1 Hoetzendorf Strasse from the roof of a garage in the Franz Josef Kaserne which housed a radio truck. Motor vehicles trucking to the barracks installation potatoes and coal from Hungarian boxcars at the railroad station [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, truck [REDACTED] with trailer, driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets, [REDACTED]

8. On 14 October 1953, one [REDACTED] tank and five trucks were parked in Camp Spratzern. Truck [REDACTED] driven from the direction of St. Poelten by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets shuttled to the camp two groups of about 20 men who wore red-bordered black or black-bordered red epaulets. Trucks [REDACTED] driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets also shuttled potatoes and coal from Hungarian boxcars at the railroad station to the camp. Tank truck [REDACTED] driven by a soldier wearing red-bordered black epaulets transported to the camp area fuel drained from a tank car of the Austrian Federal Railways. ²

9. On 15 October 1953, imprints of track-laying vehicles were seen at the loading ramp at the railroad station of Goepritz (O 49/R 64). A railway official said that only some minor troop trains had departed. ³

1. [REDACTED] Comment. Probably elements of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div which returned from the Doellersheim training camp to the St. Poelten post and Camp Spratzern as well as elements of the division headquarters as may be inferred from the sedan and the three jeeps carrying field officers, to the former District Court Building which presumably quarters the division headquarters. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] Comment. Previous reports stated that the Frinz Eugen Kaserne in St. Poelten quarters the engineer battalion and the Franz Josef Kaserne quarters the signal battalion. [REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED] Comment. The present report indicates that elements of the 13th Gds Mecz Div and the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div were still at the Doellersheim training camp in mid-October.

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